

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3808

ANSWERED ON:17.08.2010

PRICE OF SEEDS

Mohan Shri P. C.;Pandurang Shri Munde Gopinathrao;Patil Shri A.T. Nana

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any plan/proposes to decontrol the price of seeds in the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Union Government has held any consultation with the State Governments in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether certain States have expressed reservations against such proposal; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (PROF. K.V. THOMAS)

(a) to (d): There is no provision in the Seeds Act 1966 for seed price regulation. Seed is an essential commodity in terms of Seed (Control) Order 1983 issued in exercise of powers available under Essential Commodities Act, 1955 but the same is for purposes of quality control only. Price regulation is not provided for. There is no provision for price control in the Seeds Bill 2004 also. Therefore, the question of decontrol does not arise.

(e) & (f): Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Maharashtra have sought to regulate price of Bt. Cotton seeds only within their states through Ordinances/Acts. The matter is sub-judice.